

December, 1959

the Carolina Farmer

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CAROLINA'S RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

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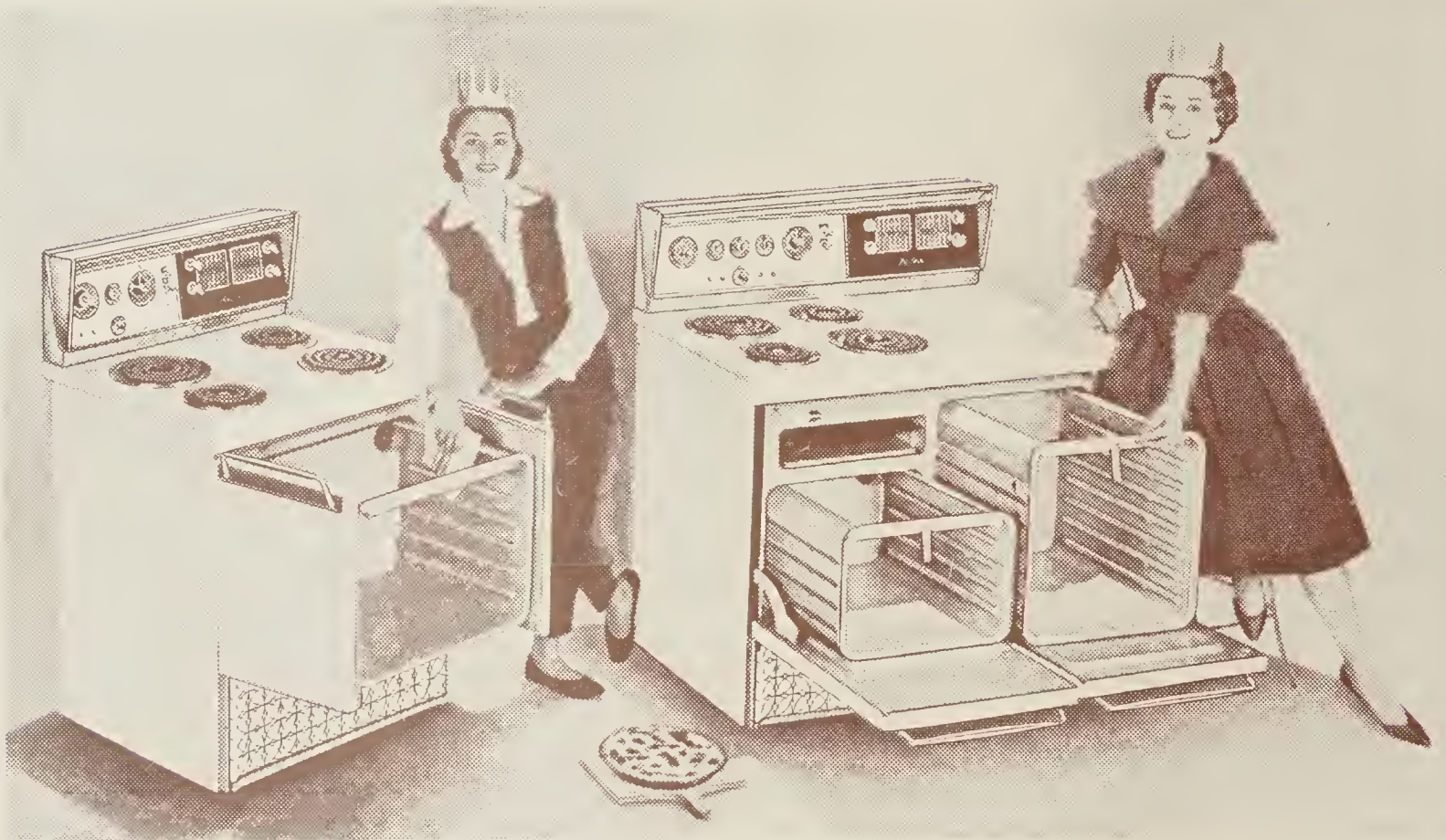
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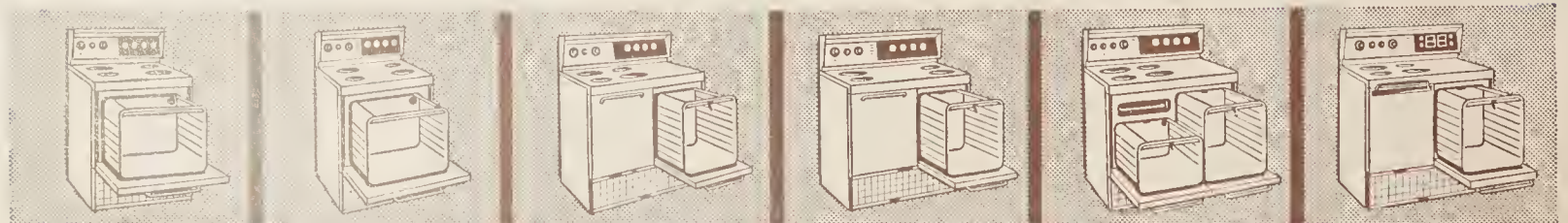
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Pull 'N Clean Oven

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RDD-20-60, 40" wide.
Pull 'N Clean Oven

RCD-71-60, 40" wide.
2 Pull 'N Clean Ovens

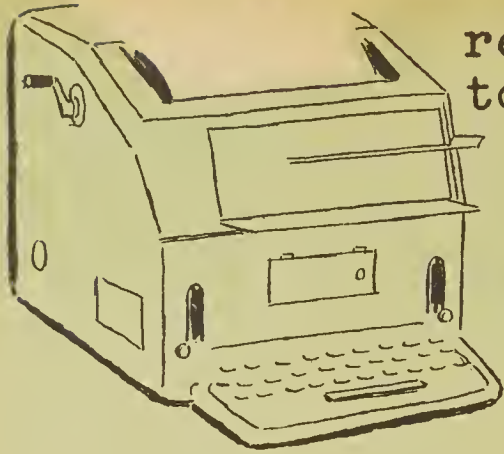
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BRIEF



reports on events of importance to rural electric co-op members

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY was restrained from invading cooperative service areas in two conflicts which arose last month. This brings to five the number of power company-cooperative cases in various stages of litigation. The latest suits were brought by Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation, of Morehead City, and Pitt & Greene EMC, of Farmville. On November 4, Judge Wil-

liam J. Bundy enjoined CP&L from constructing distribution facilities to a proposed housing development which lies between a CP&L transmission line and a Carteret-Craven distribution line. The disputed area, about 2½ miles north of Morehead, includes 85 lots to be developed by Henry White of Morehead City. For many years, Carteret-Craven EMC has had a three-phase, 7,200-volt distribution line directly across the road from the northern edge of the development. CP&L has no distribution line in the area. The company proposes to serve it off of a 33,000-volt transmission line which connects the Havelock and Morehead City substations. The line passes the southern edge of the development. It is unusual, and expensive, for a utility to use a high voltage transmission line for distribution. It first must step the power down to 7,200 volts (an operation usually performed at a substation) with a large transformer, and then reduce it to 240 volts with distribution transformers. Carteret-Craven can serve the development through the normal procedure of using small transformers to step its distribution voltage down to household current.

A PROPOSED NEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL is the prize at stake in the Pitt & Greene dispute with CP&L. The school, which lies between Walstonburg and Snow Hill, will be smack in the middle of an area threaded with Pitt & Greene's lines, including a three-phase line which runs through the school property. Yet, CP&L has staked right-of-way and plans to extend its lines approximately 4,240 feet in order to serve the school and future construction in the area. The school will require three-phase power, and CP&L would have to re-phase its line back to Snow Hill in order to deliver it. That's a distance of approximately three miles. On November 14, Judge J. Paul Frizzelle issued an injunction temporarily restraining CP&L from further construction in the territory.

BOTH COOPERATIVES ARE WHOLESALE customers of CP&L, and they claim the company violated its power contracts with them. The contracts prohibit either party from duplicating the other's facilities, and specify that when one party can serve a premises by a line extension of not more than 300 feet, the other party shall not come from a farther distance in order to serve. The contracts also prohibit either utility from rendering service from a transmission line in competition with the other's distribution facilities. The Carteret-Craven injunction will be considered at a hearing in Greenville, and the Pitt & Greene case at Snow Hill in early December. The court will either dissolve the orders or make them permanent. The next step, if any is taken, would be to trial court. Three other territorial cases involving N. C. co-ops and power companies are waiting trial.

the Carolina Farmer



Dear Reader:

by J. C. BROWN, JR.

Next Year Marks the 25th year of rural electrification under the act which created REA, and the movement is still meeting resistance from groups with powerful resources. One of these, the National Tax Equality Association, recently told its members, "We are right close to getting what we've been fighting for." That is the total destruction of co-operatives, to be achieved through punitive taxes.

I mention this only because it's pertinent to a question I've been trying to answer since I first became acquainted with rural electric cooperatives. That is, whence comes the militant, uncompromising, determined spirit that is the mark of most people who spend any amount of time in rural electrification? That spirit does exist, to a greater degree than in any calling I've observed. It's the only thing that makes a "rural electrification type," for they certainly come from diverse backgrounds—teachers, preachers, engineers, lawyers, economists, newspaper men, farmers, ex-power company employees, and at least one entomologist who found his place in "the program" through a talent at art.

Light is an Inspiring Symbol, but I don't believe the bringing of light fully explains their extraordinary loyalty and determination. Rather, I suspect, their character was shaped by an outraged reaction to the preposterous philosophy preached by the NTEA and many of the power companies. That philosophy simply says that private profit is the *only* motive that can serve mankind.

The extensive promotion of a cynical philosophy which denies man any nobility of purpose is bound to breed a vigilant opposition. As long as the NTEA seems close to getting what it has been fighting for, there will be people, with no particular interest in cooperatives, who rise up in alarm and find their way to the battlefield. A common confession in this business is, "I didn't know anything about REA, but if the power companies were against it, then I was for it."

The Ideal of Profit cannot be permitted to so monopolize the public mind that it destroys an institution based on the widespread sharing of a service. Man has many trophies signifying how clever he has become, but there are few permanent signs that he is any more noble than the innkeeper of Bethlehem. The phenomenon of rural electrification is one monumental example that man *is* capable of sharing his inventiveness for reasons other than personal enrichment.

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ABOUT THE COVER—When we asked Artist Roger Brantley what he remembered about his childhood Christmases, he replied, "Going to Grandma's farm." And what did you see at Grandma's? "Animals, and sometimes snow." Anything else? "Well, cousins—lots of cousins." Since these are exactly the things we remember, we asked Roger to draw us a picture about them, and he did, and here it is. It looks like Christmas to us, especially those cousins you can't see; they're inside, sleeping three to a bed.



J. C. BROWN, JR., EDITOR

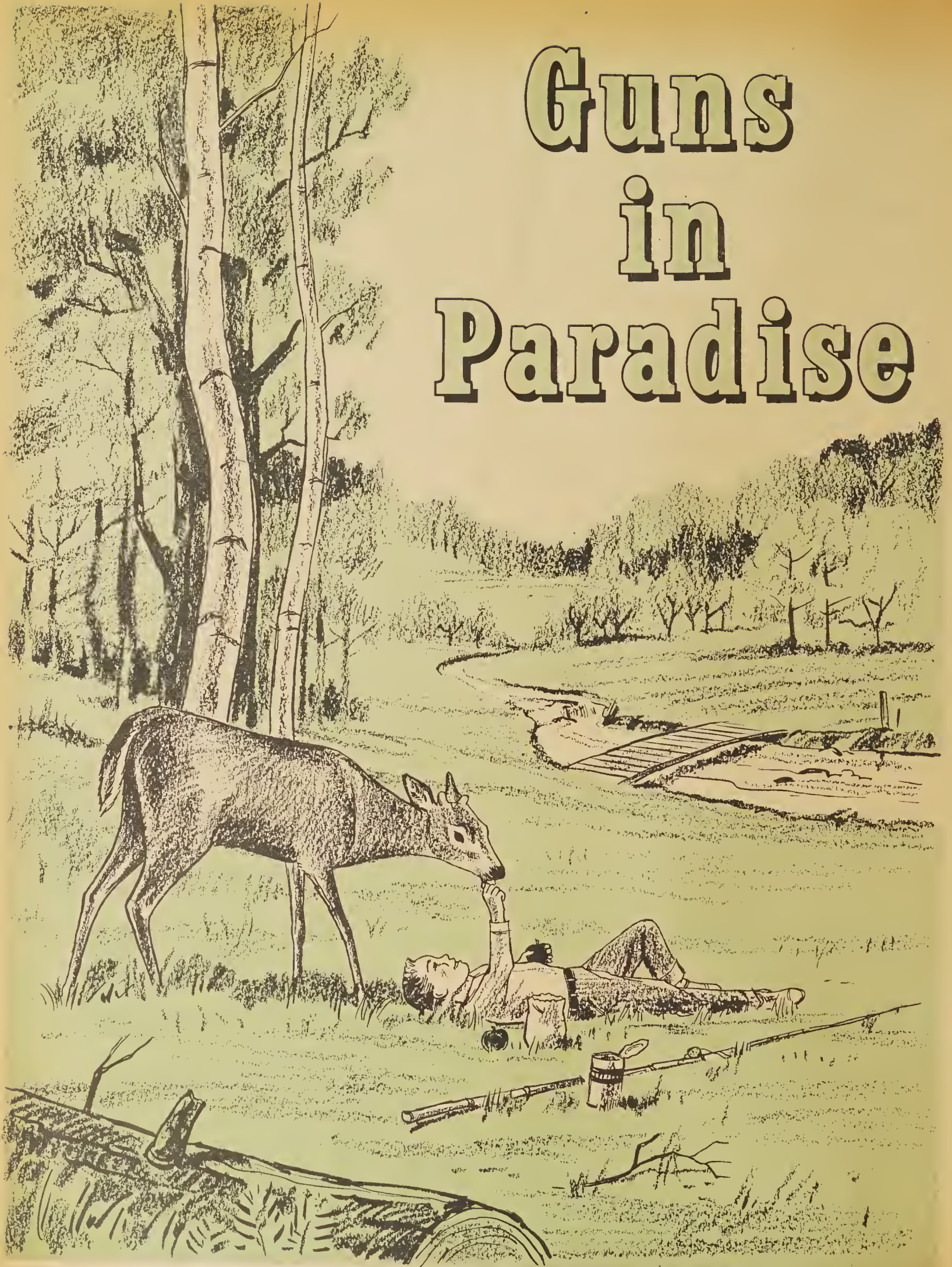
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Guns in Paradise



Guns and hunting are this gunsmith's love, poachers and careless hunters his hate

By J. C. BROWN, Jr.

THE mountain country around Devotion is as beautiful as any in North Carolina, but it's an unlikely place to plant a business. The through traffic in this part of Surry County is carried by Highway 21, a few miles to the west, and the paved road that leads past Clyde Moore's place is there to accommodate the farmers of the valley. Follow it beyond the pavement and across the mountain, and you'll either get lost or wind back into Highway 21 at Thurmond.

It's a lovely, isolated part of the country, and the Moores, father and son, decided that anybody wanting to do business with them would have to find it. That's where they wanted to live.

Until his death, Clyde Moore's father operated a mill and a blacksmith shop, and as long as there was a demand for milling and blacksmithing, the world beat a path to his door. Now, that part of the hunting world which demands fine, hand-made gun work is beating a path to his son's door, same address—Dobson, Route 1.

Just before the valley ends against the southern slope of the Blue Ridge, you'll find Clyde Moore's shingle. It's a small, simple sign on his mailbox: "Clyde Moore—Gunsmith."

That's where you park your car. To find the gunsmith, you cross the headwaters of Mitchell's River over a footbridge, and stand facing Moore's own private valley. On the left is the old mill. Directly in front is his home, typical of construction in the mountains, a high front porch on stilts and the back resting against the hillside. To the right, 100 yards away, is a cinder block shop. Beyond, to the south, is a long meadow, protected on one side by river and a thick growth of trees, and on the other by a forested mountainside.

The path from the house to the shop is guarded by a cow with a crooked horn. She looks up curiously for a moment, and returns to her grazing, moving a few inches off the path.

Down the path is a cage, and a skunk inside seems friendly enough. Certainly deodorized, and safe to tease.

Inside the shop, Moore is shaping a gun stock from French mahogany, and his wife, Senia, is blueing a gun barrel.

It's a contented scene, and suggests that they hardly view their work as a chore.

They're a handsome, youthful couple, shy at volunteering information, but willing to answer questions.

Since you were here last, you learn, the family size has increased. Instead of two, there are four children, all in school. A flood washed away the mill wheel, and Moore moved his gun shop out of the mill, and into the new building.

Other than these things, the main change in the valley is an increase in the number of sportsmen who have discovered Moore's skill at gunmaking. The new building and some power tools suggest that business is good.

Moore can make or repair any kind of small firearm, but most of his work is in making guns and ammunition for woodchuck, or groundhog, hunting, a popular sport in Alleghany County and nearby parts of Virginia. The hunting is done from quite a distance away from the target, and requires telescopic sights,

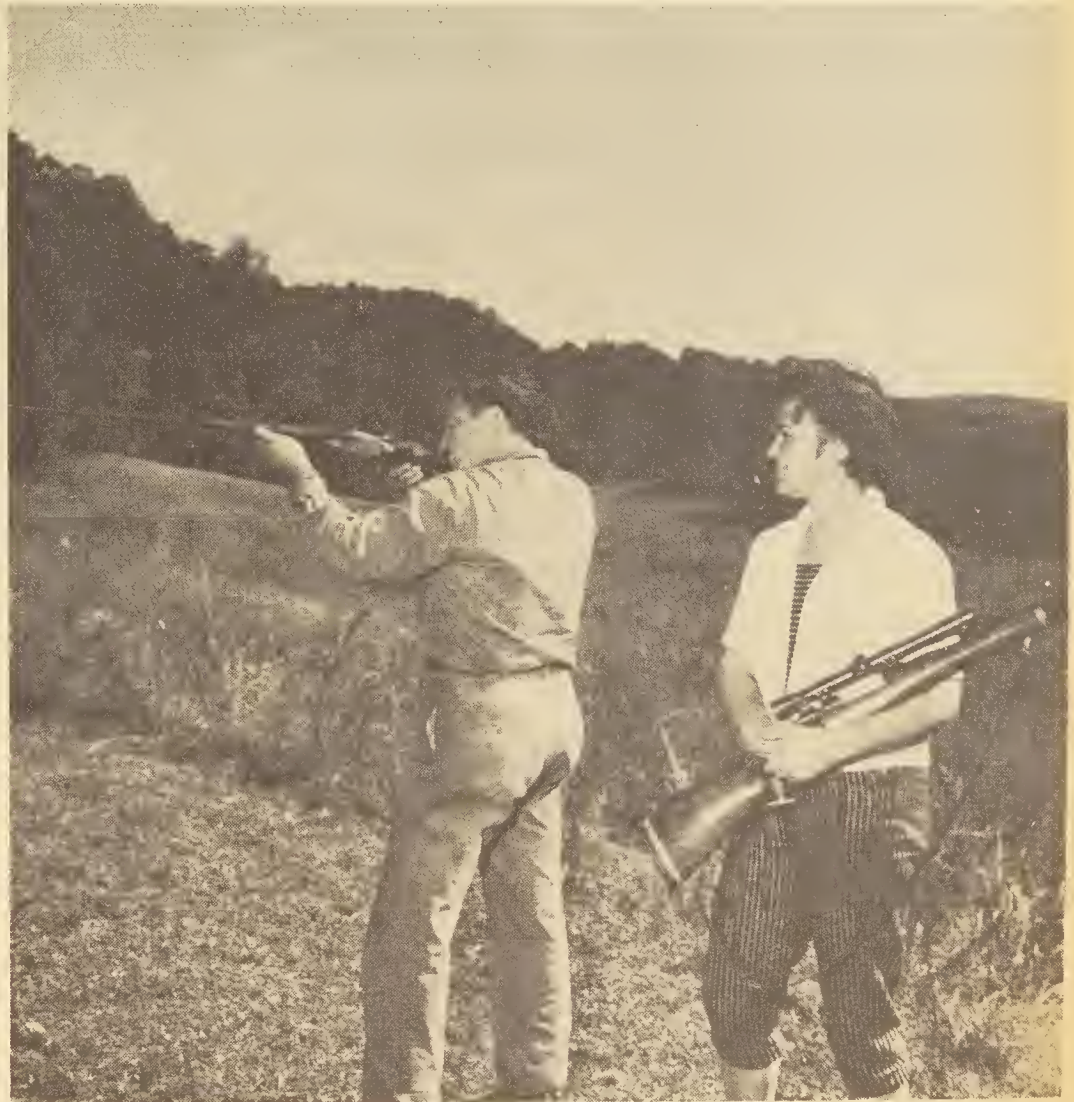
a high velocity, critically accurate rifle, and hand-loaded cartridges. The average woodchuck shot is from 200 yards, frequently with the hunter on one mountain, the target on another.

Moore once killed a woodchuck from 700 yards, and had to drive six miles to get it. His wife first sighted the varmint through a 20 power scope (a relic from a German submarine), and Moore barely made out the target with his 10 power scope. But that was sufficient.

Mrs. Moore is "a better shot than most men," according to her husband. The first time she ever shot at a woodchuck, she killed it from a distance of 318 yards. The gun she used is one Moore made for her. It is a .257 Roberts. Its stock is French mahogany, beautifully inlaid with ivory.

His two sons are excellent shots also, and Moore proudly displayed a 1½-inch target which Dwight, 14, hit dead center from 220 yards.

(Continued next page)



Clyde Moore's favorite gun is a combination .44 calibre rifle and 16 gauge shotgun. It's a German-made Nimrod hammerless, which Moore rechambered. Mrs. Moore's favorite is this .257 Roberts, made by her husband. The stock is inlaid with ivory.

Moore calls groundhog hunting a wonderful sport. "It's good training, and there's open season all the time. Most farmers like for you to hunt them because they do a lot of damage."

The most memorable hunting trip for Moore was last summer, when he and Will Reynolds of Winston-Salem went on a six-week expedition to Africa. Together they bagged 43 trophies, some of them close to records. Moore used some of his own guns, and hand-loaded all of the shells. The object of hand-loading is to get precisely the charge needed for a particular game. Also, there is no factory-produced ammunition for some of the handmade guns.

Most factory-made guns, Moore explains, are originally "mavericks," such as he makes. When they become popular enough, factories start producing them.

Moore bagged 23 trophies himself in Africa, and "I didn't cripple a thing," he reports. His trophies include elephant, oryx, impala, buffalo, leopard, and zebra.

Moore is fond of deer hunting, and he lives in some of the best deer country in the state. This is a mixed blessing.

He's troubled by poachers and hunters alike, and doesn't feel too safe in his own home during the short Surry County deer season.

"When the season opens, they crowd in here, and many hunters don't even ask you if they can hunt on your land. I found one wandering around drunk, using his gun for a walking stick."

Moore is promoting a system which he thinks will lead to greater safety and offer more hunting to everyone. So far, he hasn't received any encouragement from wildlife authorities.

He feels that the big problem is too many hunters within a small area at the same time. Under the present system of issuing licenses, here's no satisfactory way to prevent it. He believes that it would help if hunters had to buy their hunting permits from landowners, thereby giving the landowner control of the number of hunters in the area. He points out that it isn't much different from the system employed on government-owned hunting preserves.

Moore disagrees with one proposal that has been advanced as a safety measure; that is, to limit deer hunting to shotguns.

According to Moore, the man with a rifle isn't as dangerous as the one with a shotgun. "Most people won't fire a rifle until they see their target clearly,

and can get a vital shot; but the man with a shotgun will shoot too quickly, without having a good target. He just takes a chance some of the shot will drop the deer, if it is a deer.

A gentle, soft-talking man, the closest Moore comes to bitterness is when he talks about poachers.

The Moores once found a fawn in the forest, near their home. It was almost dead, and for weeks Mrs. Moore cared for it. When the fawn regained its health, it was as tame as a house dog. The children named it "Buck" and it was their constant companion.

One night, Moore went down to the highway to help three strangers get their stalled car started. Shortly after returning to his house, he heard a shot. He ran back to the road, to see the car roar off. In a field beside the road, he found Buck's body.

"He was just beginning to grow antlers," Moore said. "They didn't have to shoot him. He was so tame they could have walked up and choked him to death."

Moore wasn't able to avenge his loss, but Mrs. Moore accidentally disposed of some rude hunters who invaded their land.

She was on her deer stand, when some distance away, a hunter appeared in a clearing between her and the deer run. He unfolded a portable chair and sat down. Soon he was joined by several other hunters.

In order to get a better look at them, Mrs. Moore unloaded her rifle and sighted down it through the telescope.

She chuckled, "It took me awhile to realize why they left in such a hurry when they saw me. I didn't think about how it looked to them."

In Moore's business, adequate electric power has been a tremendous blessing. Before Surry-Yadkin Electric Membership Corporation brought its lines into the area, he used the old mill to generate direct current for his machines. Since modern tools are built for alternating current, it wasn't a satisfactory arrangement.

Now the Moores are planning to build a new home in their valley, and they're considering electric heat. They say they won't need air conditioning. The breeze that sweeps off the mountain through their valley takes care of the heat.

On the way back down the path, you remember to ask about the skunk. "No, he isn't deodorized," Moore reports. "We just have faith in him."

MAIL



BOX

Joke

The Joke's on *you!* Mr. Ralph Moore of Cleveland, Rt. 1, is a good member of *Davie EMC*. ("The Joke's on Me," *CF*, October)

Never let it be said of us that we would give up a good co-op member without going to bat for him. Let Rutherford EMC serve the folks in Cleveland County, but give us the folks in Cleveland, N. C.

We read the *Carolina Farmer*.

Wyona Johnson
Electrification Advisor
Davie EMC

From Maryland

I appreciate the *Carolina Farmer* and really enjoy reading it. I belong to the Ocracoke Electric Membership Corporation as I have a home on the island. I enjoyed the articles about Ocracoke and Love Valley.

Frances Garrish
Baltimore, Md.

Indoor Pasture

I would appreciate a copy of your October, 1959, edition of the *Carolina Farmer*. I want to see the article on sprouting oats in hydroponics.

Clyde Case
Mound, Minn.

Fascinating Subjects

Will you please send me a copy of your June and July issues. I have missed them and have not had the chance and privilege of reading "The Prettiest Horse on the Island." I am anxious to have this story for it is about the most fascinating subjects I know: wild ponies and the Outer Banks.

Mrs. Ben S. Atkinson
Greenville, Rt. 4

CF on Way to Greenland

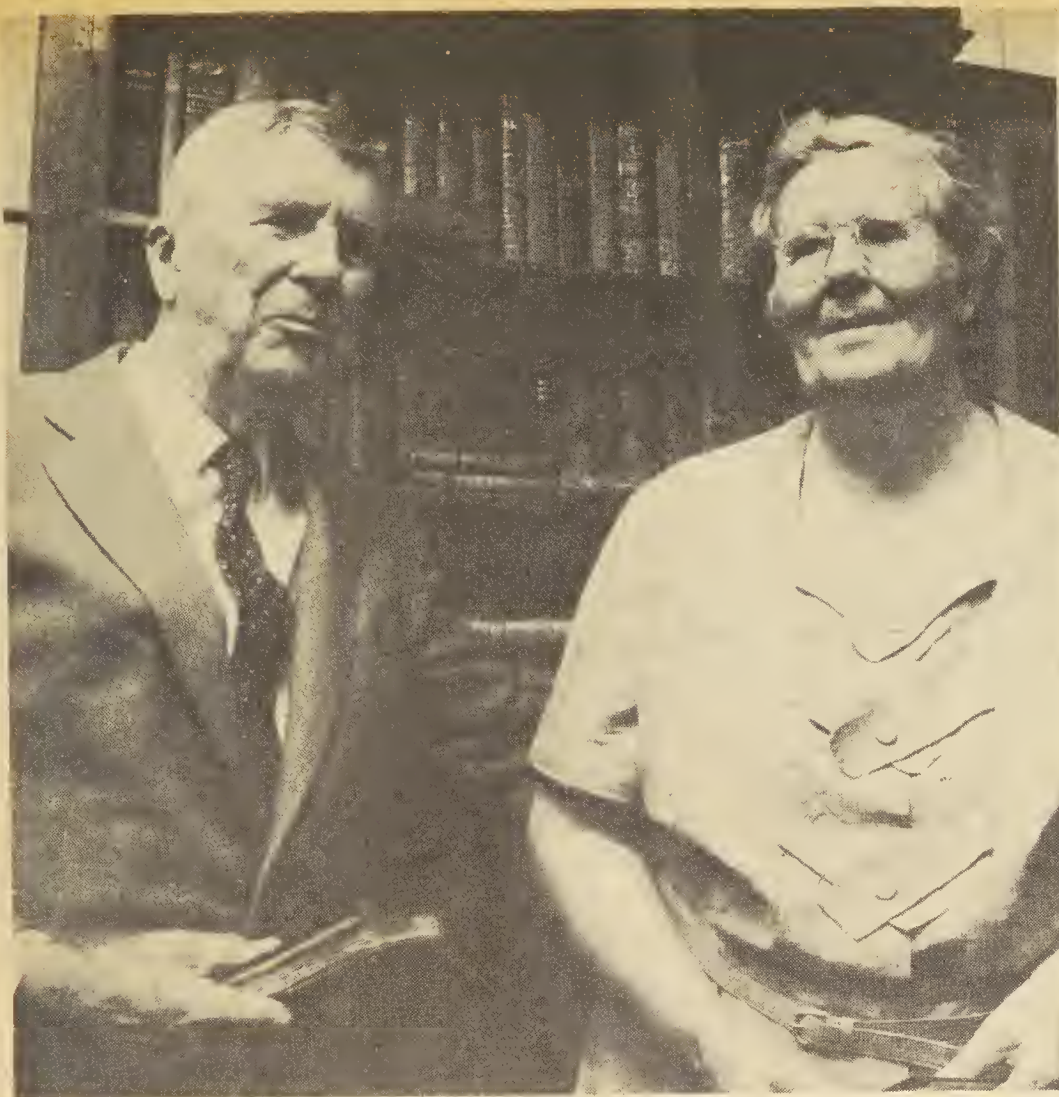
I am in the Air Forces. At the present time I am on my way to Greenland, and will be there for one year. I would like to subscribe to the *Carolina Farmer* for that time. I have just finished reading the September issue, which I liked very much.

J. C. H. Brown
APO 23, New York

Likes Our Stand

Thanks for the *Carolina Farmer*. I enjoy it and everything it stands for.

Mrs. Woodrow Blalock
Norwood, Route 1



Rev. John M. Foster and Mrs. Foster of Statesville, Route 4. They are members of Davie Electric Membership Corporation.

GOOD BOOKS, *recollections* of stage and plane travel keep the saints awake

By REBEKAH RIVERS

□ John Foster has, in his seventy-plus years, followed many professional paths. He has been a "pioneer," a teacher, an orchardist, a conservationist, and a Presbyterian preacher.

He has watched the evolution of American travel from the stage coach of his "pioneer" years ("Fare on the old coaches was 10c per mile") to the super jets of today. In the late '20's he traveled from the West Coast to North Carolina by Model T Ford. Last summer he made the return trip on a TWA constellation.

All of these rich experiences, most of them shared by his wife, Anabelle, have given the Rowan County minister a great love for the beauty of the past, without dimming his healthy respect for the present and future.

In early 1957, John and Anabelle Foster were retired by their Presbytery (their last parish was the Calvary Presbyterian Church in Davidson), and they moved to the rambling farm house near Statesville which had been awaiting them for several years. "We call our farm 'Skookum Acres,' the Indian name for 'best,' because we think these acres are the best," Mrs. Foster tells her visitors. "John wanted to call it 'Saints' Rest,' because we were referred to as 'those two saints' when we were presented for retirement. I told him, though, that there were no saints *nor* rest here."

The living room at "Skookum Acres" houses probably one of the best rare book collections in the state. Foster's enthusiasm for his life-long hobby is contagious when he takes his precious volumes from a cabinet built by Mrs. Fos-

ter's grandfather in 1823, and lovingly thumbs through their ancient pages.

Among his favorite books are a superb collection of church hymnals, a Samuel Johnson dictionary printed in 1760, and a priceless edition of John Bunyon's *The Holy War*, published in 1752. The Bunyon book, according to the Library of Congress, is more valuable than the one in its collection because of the splendid preservation of the backs.

Foster also owns two volumes of *Several Discourses Upon the Existence and Attributes of God*, printed in 1682, which came from the library of Rev. James H. Thornwell.

In 1911, John Foster, like many of his contemporaries, was bitten by the pioneer bug and left North Carolina to teach in Ocanogan County, Wash. He returned to Iredell County briefly in 1914 to get married. From then until the late '20's, the north central section of Washington State was the setting for his first four occupations. He taught, sold insurance, cultivated an apple orchard, and served the town of Brewster as irrigation manager.

Though the Fosters loved their years in the West, scarcity of water and a touch of homesickness eventually brought them back to North Carolina. Home again, Foster began studying for the profession "he always knew he would eventually follow." After finishing Union Seminary at Richmond, he entered the Concord Presbytery, and from 1930 until his retirement, served as minister for seven churches—at Cooleemee, Bixby, Mt. Airy, Flat Rock, Bethel, Springwood, and finally, at Davidson.

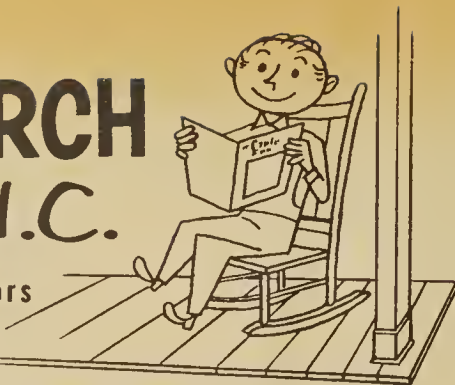
Foster says that he never found it too difficult to give up his other professions, but "with the ministry, it's different." Even after retirement, he has never ceased being a preacher. He has stood behind a Presbyterian pulpit almost every Sunday since his retirement, and his wife says they make almost as many calls to shut-ins as they did when they had parishes of their own.

Anabelle Foster is spending her retirement just about the same way she has spent her entire active life: accompanying her husband on calls, cooking (she concocts her own dessert recipes), keeping her house ever open for their many friends, and making crocheted turtles which she stuffs with soap for friends. "I always give them to missionaries to take back to their wives," she chuckles when

(Continued on Page 20)

the FRONT PORCH of Farming in N.C.

Some inspiration from neighbors
and advice from friends



Culling time

Culling the beef herd while prices are high makes good sense to B. I. Satterfield of Timberlake, Route 2. Satterfield recently took advantage of the relatively high beef price situation to get rid of two cows that had been producing poor offsprings. He replaced them with first-class animals.

Peanut referendum

A referendum on marketing quotas for the 1960, 1961, and 1962 crops of peanuts will be held December 19. The 1960 marketing *quota* for peanuts is 934,000 tons and the national *acreage* allotment is 1,610,000 acres of peanuts for picking and threshing.

\$200 more per acre

Like to add \$200 per acre to your tobacco income? You might try J. C. Hollowell's method. Hollowell, farmer in Wayne County's Rosewood community, rotates tobacco and sweet potatoes. He found that where tobacco was grown continuously for three years he made 1,408 pounds per acre which sold for \$668.80. Where the sweet potato-tobacco rotation was followed, he made 1,585 pounds per acre which sold for \$867.33. The sweet potatoes produced \$198.53 in additional tobacco income.

Retain the quality

Robert Sawyer, a farmer in the New Lake area of Hyde County, figures he can make money on stored corn only if it holds its quality throughout the storage period. According to G. W. O'Neal, county agent, Sawyer has installed aeration fans in his metal bins to keep his corn in condition. He also plans to use the fans in fumigating the corn for control of weevils.

Dried corn OK

The Nebraska Experiment Station reports the results of tests which show heat-dried corn to be every bit as good for feeding cattle as naturally dried corn. The station ran tests at 130, 160, and 190 degrees and recommends tempera-

tures of 190 degrees or less. The tests showed no significant differences between lots of heat-dried and naturally-dried corn. There was no indication of nutrient loss in the heat-dried corn nor loss in digestibility of rations containing heat-dried corn.

Fish bait

At least one man has found a use for the Japanese beetle. John Ford of Transylvania County mashes a few of the unwanted "critters" and throws them into his fish pond. The fish like the idea until Ford covers a fish hook with a few of the beetles. According to Ford, "It works!"

Summer hams

Keeping hams during the summer is no longer a problem for Bruce Foy of Cypress Creek community in Jones County. He cures his hams country-style and, after treating, packs them around an empty barrel. When the weather gets hot, he packs ice in the barrel to prevent the hams from spoiling.

Higher pack-out

Wid Wyatt of Haywood County has found that potash side-dressing for tomatoes pays off. He side-dressed his 1959 crop of tomatoes with potash and got a higher percentage of pack-out. Wyatt has also found the basic qualities of his tomatoes are better when potash is used.

New soybean

A new soybean variety, Hill, has pleased many farmers with its 1959 performance. The Hill bean is an early-maturing variety which seems to perform well when planted behind spring vegetable crops. According to Aubrey E. Harrell, assistant Bertie farm agent, T. S. Speight of Windsor, Route 1, planted Hill soybeans behind his spring cabbage crop. The beans matured as early as Ogden and other varieties which were planted much earlier. Harrell says it now appears that the new variety will yield just as many beans as the earlier-planted varieties.

The Joke's on Me!

By Mrs. Elton Jones
Dudley, Route 1
(Tri-County EMC)

(Each month the Carolina Farmer pays \$5 to the reader who supplies the best true funny story about himself. Send entries to "Joke," Carolina Farmer, Box 1699, Raleigh, N. C.)

I once lived where the light meters were checked by a man who came around every month. In our neighborhood was an old stray dog; and if I had anything left after meals, I would go to the back door and call. He would always run and get it.

One day I took an old piece of stale bread and went to the back door and called. Just then the children started hollering, and I turned around to see what they wanted, at the same time saying, "Here, come and get it if you want it."

When I turned back, I was holding the bread almost in the face of the man who was reading the meter. I dropped the bread and closed the door. If that young man reads this, now that I have the door closed between him and me, I'd like to say that I didn't mean for him to eat the bread.

Well-Said

By Kenneth Wallin
in News for Farmer Cooperatives

"We should not hold an umbrella over inefficient operation; neither should we exploit membership loyalty as a substitute for sound management."

By Thomas Jefferson

"Any nation that expects to be both ignorant and free is expecting something that never was and never will be."

By Arthur Bryant
in Illustrated London News

"I believe that to be great, to contribute something of major worth to mankind, to survive as a real force for living, and not merely as a museum piece, a nation must be led and influenced by human beings who hitch their wagons to stars and believe and act greatly."



V. S. Covil of Burgaw (left) discusses his new pole-type central farrowing house with County Agent J. N. Honeycutt. Covil is a member of Four County Electric Membership Corporation.

Pender farmers see more pigs in the

new look in hog houses

By TOM BYRD

□ Pender County farmers are laying a solid foundation for their rapidly-expanding swine industry. More and more growers are turning their attention to better farrowing facilities, as lower prices force them into greater efficiencies.

"Two years ago, there was not an improved farrowing house in Pender County," said Agricultural Agent J. N. Honeycutt. "Most farmers stuck up a piece of tin about the time their sows were ready to farrow. The rest of the time the sows ran loose."

Things are changing. Last year, Pender County farmers built about 50 new farrowing houses, and modernized 15 old ones. Practically all the houses are of pole-type construction, built fairly close to N. C. State College specifications.

Are the farrowing houses paying off?

"I've got \$600 in my house," said M. R. Horrell of Atkinson, "and it's worth every penny of it. From my last 20 litters, I have weaned 203 pigs."

Horrell had six sows before he built his farrowing house in January of 1958. By last March he had 18.

"I can handle eight sows in my house as easily as I could two or three on the outside," he explained.

Horrell's brother, R. T. Horrell, agrees on the advantages of a central farrowing house. He erected one himself last fall.

Since then he has gone from four to 14 sows.

"And I am saving one to two pigs more per litter," he said.

The story is much the same all over
(Continued on Page 22)



M. R. Horrell, of Atkinson, another Four County member, saved 203 pigs from 20 litters with the help of new farrowing house.

Model Farm Shop

By William T. Gorman*



Here's a suggested workshop center for the modern farm that includes both recommended basic portable electric and hand tools and some of the other electric tools you may want for specific projects. The workbench easily can be made by you, with the perforated hardboard mounted on the wall for storage of hand tools as well as the electric impact wrench (center) and portable electric jig saw (upper right). Equipment on the workbench includes (l. to r.) vise, portable drill in drill press stand, sander, electric saw, reversible 1/2-inch drill, 3/8-inch drill, hand grinder, and bench grinder. This basic shop—and you can start with as much or as little as you feel meets your needs and your budget—was planned by the Thor Research Center.

□ Nowhere on today's farms can electricity work for you more profitably than in a well-planned, properly-equipped workshop.

More than \$20 billion worth of vehicles and tractors has replaced "Old Dobbin" and, simultaneously, farm structures have increased with the need for more buildings to house equipment, livestock, feed and grain. The results: Repair and maintenance of mechanized equipment, upkeep and construction of buildings, including the farm home, have become major management problems, both in time and money, for the up-to-date farmer.

That's where the farm workshop comes in—for it's fact that the farmer who has his own shop is handling such problems much more efficiently, much less expensively than the farmer without a shop. And no farm workshop is well-planned or properly-equipped unless it makes full use of electricity through the great variety

of muscle-saving, time-saving portable and stationary electric tools available for the modern farm shop. The well-planned shop saves you many more dollars than it costs.

The farmer who has his own power-tool-equipped workshop, for instance, has no worry about getting a broken farm machine part repaired in time to complete an important field task. He just fixes it himself and is back in business in the field almost immediately.

Another plus: The farmer with a power

shop can remodel, add to, and improve his own home at great savings.

The beginning farm workshop will vary with the amount you can invest in tools and equipment. But keep in mind that the shop should be planned with an eye on the future. Don't be afraid to allow what may seem like excess space for the workshop. In time to come, that "excess" no doubt will be vitally needed.

Many farmers have machinery sheds;

(Continued on Page 20)

Here are the basic tools

Few people can fully equip a farm shop in the beginning, but they must start somewhere. Most experts agree that there are three tools any shop should have, so they have been placed at the top of the list as "first choice" for the new shop. They are:

1. Bench Grinder: The arbor type bench grinder is preferred by most shopmen. It can be equipped with both sickle bar and standard emery wheels at one time giving a maximum in utility and a minimum in lost time

changing wheels for specific jobs.

2. Portable Electric Drill: A 3/8-inch electric drill is recommended for the man who must limit his purchase to one drill. It will handle all the jobs of a 1/4-inch drill and many of those normally handled by a 1/2-inch drill.

3. Portable Circular Saw: Very few shopmen ever own more than one circular saw so they limit their choice to one that will handle practically all of their jobs—an 8-inch portable circular saw.

***ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** William T. Gorman is research engineer at the Thor Research Center for Better Farm Living, non-profit research farm near Marengo, Ill. The Thor Research Center has the world's most elaborate model farm shop.

Jesse Helms, a Raleigh public relations man and part-time television commentator, caught REA Administrator Hamil's pitch for higher interest rates, blessed it, and promoted it on three of his programs. After the second Helms' commentary on REA, Bill Crisp was granted equal time to defend 2 per cent interest. Here is his defense, given over Station WRAL-TV on October 25. We think it's a fair and concise review of the facts and philosophy that put lights in your home.

□ In 1935, rural North Carolina—after sundown—was a veritable land of darkness. At that time only 829 miles of electric line existed outside the corporate limits of our towns and cities. Less than four per cent of our rural homes and farmsteads had the benefit of electricity.

Now, 24 years later, North Carolina has literally come out of the darkness and into the light. Our rural areas, as well as our urban centers, are, for all practical purposes, completely electrified. One cannot view the vast social and economic enrichment thus effected without asking, if he does not already know, "How did this happen? What made it possible?"

North Carolina's General Assembly in 1935 became the first legislature in America to provide for the formation of membership corporations through which rural people could build electric systems to serve themselves. Also in 1935, the federal Rural Electrification Administration was established. Its purpose was—and still is—to make loans to utilities—be they cooperative, municipal or power company—to finance the construction of rural electric systems.

Later, as you know, our General Assembly in 1945—and the Congress in 1949—amended their respective acts to provide for rural telephone loans also.

REA was established to fulfill a need that could not then—and still cannot—be otherwise satisfied: the need for low-cost, long-term loans for financing rural electric and telephone systems.

Should the federal government, today, continue to make REA loans at a 2 per cent interest rate, when the current cost of government borrowing has gone above 2 per cent? This is certainly a legitimate, an intelligent, and indeed an inevitable question to be raised. The present national administration, joined of course by some who have always opposed the rural electrification and telephone programs, contends that an REA interest rate of 2 per cent is indefensible if it happens to be below the current cost of government borrowing.

This is precisely the premise upon which REA's original interest rates were set. From 1936 to 1944, the Rural Electrification Act provided that REA interest charges each year would reflect the average cost of government borrowings of the preceding year. This method of setting the interest rate proved to be completely ineffective. REA borrowers found that projects, feasible in the planning stage, were made unfeasible by dramatic upswings in the average interest charge. More importantly, often the interest charge was simply too high to permit extensions of service into remote, sparsely settled rural areas.

We would never have achieved rural electrification—much less *begun* a rural telephone program—had this method of setting the interest rate not been changed. In 1944, an amendment to the Rural Electrification Act provided for a straight, stable 2 per cent interest rate. BUT, at the same time, REA initiated a policy

of requiring its borrowers to provide complete area coverage service—that is, to extend service to any and all desiring it, no matter how far the applicants might live from existing lines.

The federal policy on this question has therefore been simply this: That, just as with education and highways, we should seek the great social objective of making electric service available to *every segment of our society*, no matter where situated, just as rapidly and on just as reasonable terms as possible; and that REA should therefore charge the interest rate which would make the achievement of that objective possible, whether that rate be below or above the current cost of government borrowing. This policy—and one could say, *this policy virtually alone*—has been responsible for what we call rural electrification. It is a policy that has been supported consistently and wholeheartedly by our own North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority, which must approve all REA loans in this state.

But that is not the whole story. *Providing area coverage* electric service has required our 32 corporations to sustain the costly burden of serving an average of less than four and a-half meters from each of the 42,000 miles of line they have constructed. To do this has meant that the 170,000 families, and the 20,000 churches, schools, business firms and industries which we serve, have had to pay from 15 to 40 per cent more in re-

(Continued on Page 22)

Why **2%** Interest?

By W. T. CRISP

Executive Manager of Tarheel Electric Membership Association

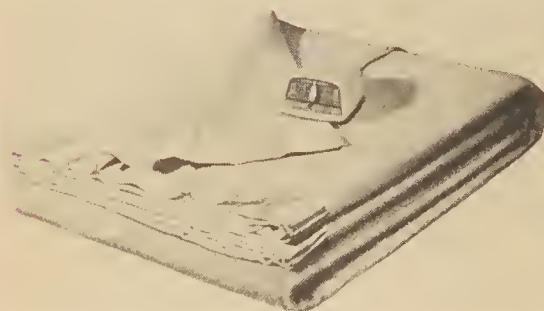


IVE B



AMERICAN FLYER "FRONTIERSMAN" has all excitement of early-day American railroading. Old in design but the newest thing on rails. Woodburner loco puffs real smoke. 40-watt transformer, 12 track sections. A. C. Gilbert, \$35.

AN ELECTRIC RANGE is an always-welcome gift for the lady of the house. New 1960 models are easy to clean, make cooking a pleasure. Wide price range available to fit your particular budget.



LIGHT WEIGHT ELECTRIC BLANKET is perfect gift. All needed on coldest night. Control gives wide range of warmth selection. Available in pinks, blues, greens, yellows in moth-proof fabrics. Constant warmth.

BETTER...Electrically

tools for his farm shop (see story on page 12 for equipment he needs). Or, he may have already expressed a wish for an electric shaver.

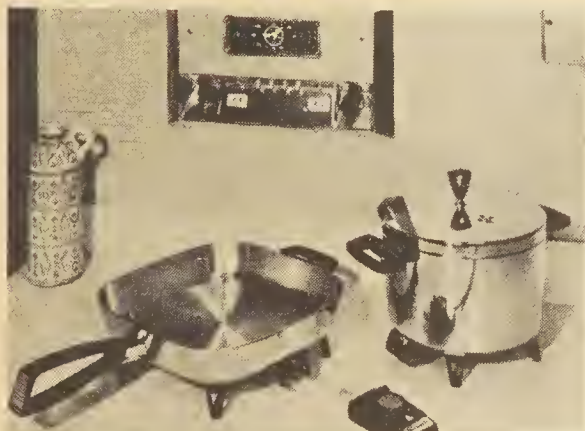
The Family's Teen-agers would be delighted with a new-model record player. An electric hair-dryer or steam iron will help teen-age girls practice the rules of good grooming.

For the Youngsters, there are countless scientific electric toys which, in addition to being fun, will help educate them for the scientific world in which they live.

The Entire Family can enjoy a television set, an electric corn-popper, or hot dog cooker (see below) together; and, individually, each member would be delighted to find an electric blanket under the tree.



DOG-O-MATIC cooks from one to six hot dogs in 90 seconds. Cooking starts when lid is closed and stops automatically when lid is raised. Base is completely washable. Lid can be wiped with damp cloth. Approximately \$10.



FIVE PORTABLE APPLIANCES operate from a single detachable control. When control is removed, appliances can be fully immersed and washed. Appliances include 2 different sized fry pans, a Dutch oven, 3-qt. sauce pan and a griddle.

ELECTRIC HAIR DRYERS are perfect gifts for all the ladies on your Christmas list—from Grandmother to teen-agers. Dryers are available in many models. Prices range from approximately \$6 to \$30.





christmas fancies

Mistletoe

*The Carolina
Homemaker*
Edited By Rebekah Rivers

In millions of homes throughout the Western world, Christmas is a time to hang a curious-looking sprig of green with white berries in the living room.

It's mistletoe, of course. Nature's "license" for kissing any pretty girl who stands beneath it.

But mistletoe means different things to many other peoples.

To the superstitious, it's an all-healing plant. . .it wards off poisons. . .keeps animals healthy.

In voodoo rites, it's an antidote for apoplexy, palsy and epilepsy. Some people think it comes from the sun. . .others think it's a gift of Jupiter. The latter also believe it "helps old ulcers and the corrupt humors."

There are elders who expect it to soothe what ails them. Actually, modern researchers find that its active principle (guipson) does indeed relieve hypertension—often an old-age ailment. It's valuable, too, in treating nervous disorders!

But to most of us it's just plain mistletoe—a "kissing plant."

And 'though it *can* help medically—it is not to be tried by the layman—only strict medical surveillance brings beneficial results.

What is this strange plant that's been regarded as a bestower of life and fertility . . . a protector against poisons . . . a potent all-healing medicine?

Encyclopedias use the customary long Latin words to describe it. But to the uneducated—especially among primitive peoples of the Western world—it's been a plant with magical powers for a long, long time.

Ancient Druid priests were among the first to expound its "virtues." They especially sought mistletoe on oak trees. When found—on the "sixth night of the moon"—they'd cut it with a golden scythe and catch it in their flowing robes.

Two white bulls were sacrificed on the spot while prayers were offered the gods in appreciation of their "gift."

The famous Golden Bough which legendary Eeneas plucked to insure safe conduct on his perilous journey to the nether-world—was mistletoe. And ancient Greek marriage rites—which used mistletoe—are said to be the forerunners of today's usage as a "kissing plant."

While most Americans favor that interpretation, there are others who cling to Old World customs. Folks in Louisiana Bayou country see it as a power to "ward off conjurers." Tiny figurines of mistletoe berries are hung above their fireplaces for protection.

But for stranger legends, we have to globe-hop. Tyrolean treasurer-seekers think they've reached their goal wherever mistletoe is found growing on hazel.

In Cambodia, a mistletoe brew renders a person "invulnerable to mortal harm." And Welsh farmers consider it lucky to present a bunch of mistletoe to the first cow that calves in the New Year.

This simple plant has produced all sorts of expectations; relieved sundry anxieties. Some come by it through field excursions; other purchase it in stores.

Angel Cake

HERE'S the most angelic of desserts for the holidays. It's full of everything that's wonderful and delicious: fluffy flaked coconut, dates and raisins, colorful cherries.




Snowy Frozen Fruit Cake

- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup white raisins
- 1 package vanilla pudding and pie filling mix
- 2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- $1\frac{1}{3}$ cups (about) flaked coconut, Maraschino cherries, halved, Pecan halves
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup whipping cream
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup coarsely chopped pecans
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sliced pitted dates
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup dry almond macaroon crumbs


Combine pudding mix and milk in saucepan. Cook and stir over medium heat until mixture comes to a full boil. Remove from heat. Add vanilla and coconut and cool.

Oil a $1\frac{1}{2}$ quart mold lightly with salad or olive oil. Arrange cherries and pecan halves in a design on bottom of pan. Whip cream. Fold chopped pecans, raisins, dates, and macaroon crumbs into cooled pudding. Then fold in whipped cream. Spoon mixture carefully over design in mold. Freeze eight hours or until firm. Unmold and garnish with additional maraschino cherries and pecans, if desired. Makes 10 to 12 servings.


Season's Gifts




SANTA CLAUS WRAP FOR TOWELS. Fold bath towels, hand towels, or wash cloths and place in wastebasket. Cover basket with red paper, using scotch tape to hold paper in place. Cut strip of batting and glue around top of covered basket. Cut beard, mustache, and eyebrows from batting and glue to basket. Glue buttons on for eyes. Cut squares of red paper, shape, and fold it into top of wastebasket for Santa's hat. Glue piece of cotton batting to top of hat.




CANDY CANE WRAP FOR SHEETS. Fold sheet several times, then roll and fasten with rubber bands. Wrap rolled sheet in tissue paper and place inside mailing tube (three inches in diameter) with one end extending out far enough to make crook of cane. Place piece of clothes hanger inside end of sheet to hold crook firm. Wrap crook with cotton batting so this part of cane will be the same size as the mailing tube. Cut piece of batting full length of cane and wide enough to wrap around it. Batting will cling together as it is wrapped around cane. Wrap wide red rickrack diagonally around batting, fastening at ends and in two or three places with tape. Add big bow of cotton chintz and Christmas bells.




CHRISTMAS CANDLE WRAP IDEA. Place gift in box and wrap box in blue, green, or red paper. Spray two mailing tubes with red or green spray lacquer. While lacquer is wet, sprinkle with gold or silver glitter. Crush gold metallic paper into the shape of a candle flame, and fasten inside top of mailing tube with masking tape. Glue candles flat on top of package. (If you prefer, you can place one candle upright on package and decorate base with holly.)



HOLIDAY FRUITS. Here are some wonderful ideas for those hard-to-shop-for people on your list. Give them: bag or basket of apples, oranges, or grapefruits, a jug of cider, mixed fruit for a fruit bowl, dried fruits (raisins, figs, prunes, apricots, dates and currents), nuts and coconut, candied or glaceed fruits.



SILVER BELLS for decorations and gift packages. Mold a double-thick, eight-inch square of foil over an inverted custard cup. Fold up the end to resemble a bell. Use on tree, in windows, on doors, or on large gift package.



SILVER DOOR WREATH. Measure off 16 feet of aluminum foil. Shape foil into a 3-foot circle, crumpling it with your hands as you go. As the circle is completed, continue to overlap the foil around the wreath until it is all used. Christmas tree ornaments may be attached with hooks or wires, in a scattered or mass arrangement. The finishing touch is a huge bow. Smaller window wreaths can be made in the same way and tied with ribbon. A large wreath for indoors may be left untrimmed until Christmas cards begin to arrive. Then each card may be pinned to the foil for a colorful mantel display or to grace the center of an otherwise unadorned wall.



Carolina Kitchens

Recipes From Co-op Homemakers

MRS. ROME CLARK, Troutman, Route 1, sends along her favorite special occasion cake for other homemakers this month. Her "Alice Cake," she tells us, is excellent for holiday visitors, for birthdays, or for just a special family treat.

Mrs. Clark and her husband live on a farm near the Catawba River in Iredell County. They have one daughter who now lives in Atlanta, Georgia. "The farm we live on," she says, "has been in the Clark family for a number of years. Our daughter is the fifth generation to be reared on this farm." They are members of Cornelius Electric Membership Corporation.

She enjoys cooking and writes us that she has enjoyed other homemaker's recipes found in this column.

To save Mrs. Clark's recipe, just clip along the dotted lines, paste it on the back of pasteboard and stick it in your permanent recipe file.

We'd like to see your favorite recipe. If you have one you'd like to share, send it to: *Carolina Farmer*, Homemaking Section, Box 1699, Raleigh. If you have a good snapshot of yourself, send it along, too. And include something about yourself and family when you send your recipe: the size of your family, what they like to eat, etc., the clubs you belong to.

CAROLINA FARMER RECIPE

Submitted by Mrs. Rome Clark

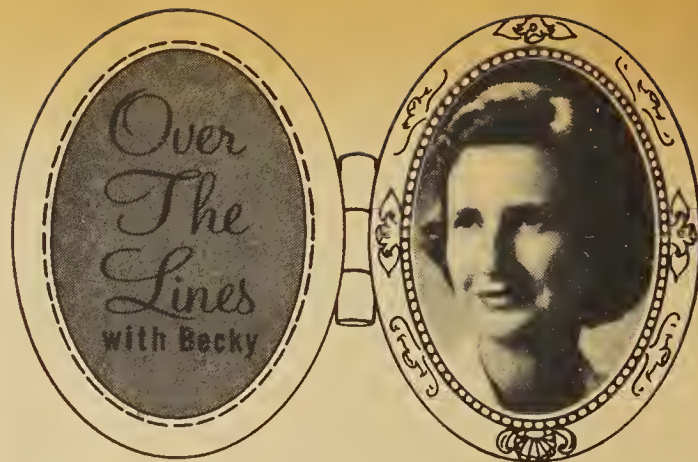
Troutman, North Carolina

Route 1

ALICE'S CAKE

3 cups cake flour	1 cup milk
5 eggs	$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder
$2\frac{1}{2}$ cups sugar	1 cup butter

Cream butter and sugar thoroughly. Beat in 1 egg at a time, until light and fluffy. Mix in flour alternately with milk, adding baking power to the last $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of milk. Bake either in layers or in stem pan about 1 hour and 15 minutes at 350 degrees F. Frost with favorite icing.



Christmas indigestion . . .

*"Christmas itself may be
called into question
If carried so far it
creates indigestion."*

These lines from "The Unwise Christmas" by Ralph Bergengren refer, as I recall, to overeating from the Christmas boards—boards hunchbacked by tom turkeys, pumpkin pies, plum puddings, and miles of other goodies so tempting to the eye and so fatal to the tummy.

There's still another form of Christmas indigestion, however, that our mortal, modern flesh has fallen heir to: tinsel indigestion—that false luster that wraps us like a fog at this season—that transient, gaudy film, which, like an imitation stone in comparison to a real diamond, is more gay than valuable.

Tinsel indigestion occurs when the lights from the Christmas tree, the luster of the Christmas gifts, and the jostling of the crowds dim the beams of the Eternal Light to which the season is dedicated, and fades the Star of the East, which is so out of the reach of the patient suffering from this malady. The first symptom of the disease is evidenced when the stricken person says, "I'll be so glad when Christmas is over" or "Oh, how I dread Christmas."

Tinsel indigestion, like many diseases, can be prevented by precautionary measures: In all the Christmas preparations, don't let the precious Babe of Bethlehem get lost in the box of Christmas ribbons, scotch tape, and scissors. When you're decorating your Christmas tree, remember that the evergreen denotes the love of God that is ever fresh and vital. When you light your candles, let them tell of Christ, the Light of the World. Let your Christmas wreaths tell of the eternal love, with no beginning and no end.

When you recognize the first symptoms of tinsel indigestion, go out and look at the stars—and never let them get too far beyond your reach in this beautiful season of never-failing Light.

Send THIRTY-FIVE CENTS in coins (no stamps, please) for EACH pattern to: CAROLINA FARMER, Post Office Box 42, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, New York. Add 10¢ for EACH pattern if you wish first-class mailing.

New Year's Fashions

9433 Pretty variation of your favorite shirtdress with notched front yoke; 8-gore skirt. Printed Pattern in Half Sizes 14½-24½. Size 16½ takes 3⅞ yards 39-inch fabric.

4919 Step-in casual designed for the larger figure. Printed Pattern in Women's Sizes 36-50. Size 36 takes 4½ yards 35-inch fabric.

9346 Wrap-around dress with single pocket. Wear now as jumper with its companion blouse. Printed Pattern in Half Sizes 14½-24½. Size 16½ dress, 4⅞ yards 39-inch fabric; blouse 1⅞ yards 35-inch.

4549 Plaid and plain combine for this charming little dress. Note buttoned bodice, inverted front pleat. Printed Pattern in Girls' Sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14. Size 10 dress takes 2¼ yards plain fabric; ⅞ yard checked.

9413 Round-the-clock shirtdress to keep you neat day after day. Printed Pattern in Misses' Sizes 10-18. Size 16 takes 3¼ yards 39-inch fabric.

9361 Need last-minute gifts? Make aprons. Three jiffy-cut styles are quick to make. Trim with rick-rack, ruffles, binding. Each takes 1 yard 35-inch fabric. Misses' Medium Size ONLY.



NEEDLE NOVELTIES



643. Need some last-minute gifts? Potholders are the answer. These are gay, quickly made, cost almost nothing. Transfer, directions, color ideas for six holders plus pair of oven mitts. 7410. Easy-applique quilt—tulips in a striking new design. Just two patches; stems may be embroidery or bias binding. Use scraps. Charts, directions, pattern of applique patches, yardages. Send TWENTY-FIVE CENTS (in coins) for EACH pattern to: The Carolina Farmer, 243 Needlecraft Service, P. O. Box 162, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, New York. Add FIVE CENTS each for 1st class mailing. Send additional 25c for new 1960 Needlecraft Catalogue.

FARM SHOP

(Continued from Page 12)

and this building, or a section of the barn, is ideal for the farm shop. You'll want space for tools, workbenches, lumber and other building materials, heating unit, and room to work on farm equipment. There should be sufficient window area for good ventilation.

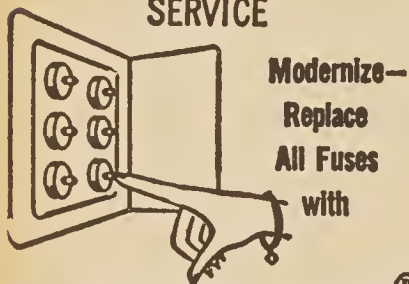
You'll want a ceiling light every 200 square feet to eliminate shadows over areas where equipment work may be done, and there should be lighting outlets every 8 to 10 feet over workbenches.

Adequate wiring and outlets for the

"NEVER?"

No, **NEVER** change fuses again

JUST PRESS THE BUTTON TO RESTORE ELECTRICAL SERVICE



MINI-BREAKER®



Safest! Underwriters' Listed. Ask your Rural Electric Co-op about Mini-Breaker fuse panel modernization. If they can't supply you, write: Mechanical Products, Inc., Jackson, Mich.

power tools you'll use is necessary for efficient shop operation, and should be separate from the lighting service. This means you should have 115-volt service, preferably equipped with three-prong receptacles because of the many electric tools fitted with three-prong plugs. The third prong, the safety ground, protects against short circuits. If you don't use three-prong receptacles, however, utilize adapter plugs with green grounding wires attached to the outlet itself, if that is grounded, or to a water pipe.

A good basic workshop plan should have as many hand tools as possible. These include coping, crosscut, and rip saws; a set of combination open-end and box wrenches, 1/4 to 1 inch in size; combination 6-and 8-inch pliers; claw, tack, and conventional 3-pound ball peen hammers; various width wood chisels and files; 2 sizes of Phillips screwdrivers; a variety of 4-to 12-inch-long screwdrivers; wire cutter pliers; jack and block planes; level and T-square.

The shop should include as basic portable electric tools a bench grinder, sander, 3/8-inch drill, and circular-blade saw.

The bench grinder, for sharpening chisels, drill bits, wood auger bits, plane blades, and other cutting tools, should have eye shields for safety and an adjustable tool rest.

Choose an orbital electric sander that weighs about 5 pounds, with 4 1/2 by 5 1/8-inch sanding area and with both sanding sheets and lambswool bonnet, the latter so it can double as a polisher.

By selecting a 3/8-inch rather than a 1/4-inch portable electric drill, you'll have a tool that has sufficient power to work in wood, steel, masonry, concrete, mar-

ble—virtually any material.

You'll find that the "workhorse" of the shop is the portable electric circular saw, so it should be chosen with large jobs in mind. A 7-inch blade diameter will cut 2x4s at a 45-degree angle, an important consideration. The saw should have enough power to cut all types of material and should have such other features as safety slip clutch, adjustable sighting guide, retractable blade guard, safety switch, and protractor for angle cuts.

You'll want to add other portable electric tools as your workshop activities expand—and you even may want to start with some others for use on specific projects you have in mind.

A 1/2-inch reversible electric drill with drill stand, portable jig saw with companion jig table, impact wrench, hand grinder, and a sheet metal nibbler have their values for the farm shop.

The 1/2-inch drill, which can work up to 1/2-inch in steel and 1 inch in wood, should be reversible, so you can back the bits out of holes. This same tool becomes a drill press for boring 4x4s and other heavy lumber when used with a drill stand.

Today's portable electric jig saws are truly versatile tools for they can start their own hole, cut curves, circles, and scrolls, make long straight cuts with the aid of a rip guide, and work in almost any kind of material, including 2x4s. The small extra investment in a jig table converts the portable saw to a stationary jig.

An impact wrench has been developed that can be used with hole saw, auger bit, screwdriver, grinder, polisher, wire brush, and several other accessories.

Good Books

(Continued from Page 9)

showing her handiwork. "I'll bet my turtles are strown all over the world."

The Fosters say they will be kept fairly busy in their retirement just going to their churches' homecomings.

"But don't forget that, while we're retired from active ministry, we're now active farmers." They have a cotton acreage which they cultivate with the help of a neighbor, and they raise and freeze much of the food they eat.

As Don Quixote's Sancho said of preachers, "He preaches well that lives well," so the Fosters strive in their later years as they did in their early ones to

preach the good sermon—both in and out of the pulpit.



Book entitled, "Several Discourses Upon the Existence and Attributes of God," was printed in 1682. It is one of two volumes the Rev. Mr. Foster owns.

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Rural Roundtable

This Month our Teen Panel Answers The Question:

Should Teen-agers "hug and kiss" in public?

SANDRA COVINGTON

Pilot Mountain, Surry-Yadkin Electric



I do not think that teen-agers should "hug and kiss" in public. Not only does it look bad but I think it influences younger children.

If the public place is, for example, your high school gymnasium and a ballgame is being played, the couple who starts "hugging and kissing" there is a reflection on your school as well as yourself. Outsiders there are going to judge your school by *you*. So, I do not think that teen-agers should "hug and kiss" in public because *so many people are watching and judging*—not only you, but your school and anything you are connected with.

CRAIG BURNETTE

Walnut, French Broad Electric



I think that no teen-ager should "hug and kiss" in public. In most socially-respected groups, "hugging and kissing" isn't accepted in public. It makes a bad impression on the public in general and in many

cases causes people to lose respect for the individuals involved.

Kissing is the first step to serious love-making. It causes poor character building when carried on in public.

Best authorities on manners highly recommend that a person should not show his affections in public. Therefore, I think teen-agers should not be an exception.

DWIGHT ROUSE

Seven Springs, Tri-County Electric



I don't think teen-agers should "hug and kiss" in public. If they do, they might ruin their reputation. People might think them "fast" or show-offs. I don't think too much petting is in order anyway with young teen-agers. There are other things they can do to amuse themselves.

RITA JANE HARRIS

Oriental, Pamlico-Beaufort Electric



I don't think it is very appropriate to "hug and kiss" in public. This can lead to a bad reputation. Once a girl gets a bad reputation it is hard for her to live it down among both the younger and older generations. She should have more respect for herself. There are things teen-agers can find to do to amuse

themselves other than "hugging and kissing" in public.

THIS MONTH'S QUESTION is asked by Minnie Lotharp, Marshville, Route No. 2. Minnie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Lotharp, who are members of Union Electric Membership Corporation. She is seventeen years old and finished high school last spring.

Minnie's hobbies are writing and reading. She adds that she also "likes the movies very much."

WHY 2% INTEREST?

(Continued from Page 13)

tail rates than do the customers of the commercial power companies. Bear in mind that these companies, *in rural areas alone*, serve over 10 meters per mile of line.

Despite this, our people, by returning any margins realized to what we call a revolving equity capital fund, have furnished over 20 per cent of the \$115 million thus far required in capital funds. You will recall that when these corporations were first organized, they required 100 per cent *debt* capitalization from REA. Over the years, however, we are slowly but surely replacing *debt* capital with our own capital.

Yet, during all these years we have consistently made, without a single default, all our payments of both principal and interest when they came due to REA—which is every three months on each loan outstanding.

Over the years our interest payments to REA have taken over 14 cents out of every dollar of revenue received. If this interest cost is increased *at the present time*, either we must raise our retail rates even higher, or, our margins must be reduced, if not wiped out altogether—which would result in our operating in the red, or both. If our margins are reduced, the equity capitalization of our systems will either halt altogether or be considerably retarded, thus putting off just that much longer the time when our dependence on REA for loan capital might otherwise come to an end.

As recently as the summer of 1958, David A. Hamil, REA's present admini-

strator, told a Senate subcommittee that REA could not fully achieve its objectives if the interest rate were increased; he also said that a dual standard of interest rates would be unworkable.

But there are other, equally significant reasons why we oppose an increase at this time in the REA interest rate:

The current average cost of government borrowings is a most undependable index by which to set our rates. During 14 out of the 23 years through 1958, the REA interest rate was actually *higher* than the average cost of the government's marketable securities. Indeed, government interest rates went well below 2% in one four-month period just last year. Yet, no one, and certainly not our own people, made any protest about this. It is simply no barometer to go by.

One cannot evaluate the REA interest rate by any such standard. To do so completely overlooks the tremendous indirect benefits that rural electrification has produced—and will continue to produce if granted yet enough time to achieve sound, financial conditions. It overlooks the fact, for instance, that for every dollar invested in these systems, our people have spent over \$4 for electric equipment: This has meant nearly \$500 million in electric appliance sales in North Carolina alone.

It overlooks the obvious competitive stimulus which our corporations for the first time were able to introduce into the electric industry: North Carolina's commercial power companies built nearly 5,000 miles of rural line during the first two years after REA was born—some six

times as many as they had built in all previous years put together.

As to the charge that our corporations are borrowing money at 2 per cent and then investing it for 3 per cent or more, that simply is not true. REA will not permit such a practice.

We must, of course, maintain *reserve* funds at all times—funds for replacing lines and equipment when they are used up, and more importantly, funds for meeting such emergencies as are caused by hurricanes. One utility system in South Carolina, for instance, suffered over \$500,000 damages as a result of Hurricane Gracie alone.

Like the good servants in the Biblical parable, who did *not bury* their talents, we of course put such funds into temporary, interest-bearing investments pending their actual use. But they represent a small portion indeed of our capital requirements, and we would be remiss in our responsibilities if we did not so manage our finances as to be able *at all times* to guarantee the continuity of good, dependable service to our people. Any utility system must do this.

The success of rural electrification to date is the greatest argument I know of in favor of continuing present federal policy. If that policy *is* continued, there is no doubt whatever that in only a few more years we shall finally achieve the sound financial base from which we may stand with dignity and independence in the normal money market. To destroy that policy is merely to jeopardize the economic feasibility of an essentially sound program—and to prolong that program's dependence upon the federal government for loans.

— Hog House —

(Continued from Page 11)

Pender: new farrowing houses have meant bigger and healthier litters and larger herds.

"I am now tending to 183 hogs," one farmer said. "A few years ago I wouldn't have tried to look after that many hogs."

V. S. Covil of Burgaw built his farrowing house in the winter of 1957. By last spring he had increased his sows from 6 to 17.

"I plan to go to 20 sows this year," he added, "and by next year I hope to have 24. Then I can take full advantage of my 12-stall house."

The house has already paid for itself, Covil said. "I now average weaning 9.3 pigs per litter, where I only averaged seven without the central farrowing house."

For several years, Agricultural Agent Honeycutt has worked religiously to increase Pender's hog production. And the fact that he is making progress is brought out by these figures:

In 1956, Pender farmers grossed \$726,000 from their hogs; in 1958, they grossed \$2.5 million.

"Farmers had to do something,"

Honeycutt explained. "Tobacco allotments were cut. They couldn't go into the production of other basic crops, because they were controlled. Growing livestock, poultry, vegetables or blueberries were the only alternatives to earning less money."

Honeycutt attributes the development of Pender's swine industry from a sideline operation to a major farm enterprise to three primary factors.

"To begin with, we had good stock in the county," he said. "Second, farmers have gone into the business with an eye for efficiency. And third, farmers have had the backing of both public and private lending agencies."



"To Grandfather's House We go"

EVERYONE goes to Grandfather's house at Christmas time. The older go in memories warm and dear, while the younger go in happy anticipation. Christmas is old, yet always new. And when, in the rustle of ribbon and paper, somehow we get carried away by happy memories of past Christmases, it seems wonderful and befitting.

Yet, while thankful for a heritage of wonderful Christmas memories, we must not forget that Christmas is always new to the young and must throw ourselves wholeheartedly into making it just as happy for them as it was for us. After all, what better gift can we give our children than a lot of wonderful Christmas memories of their own?

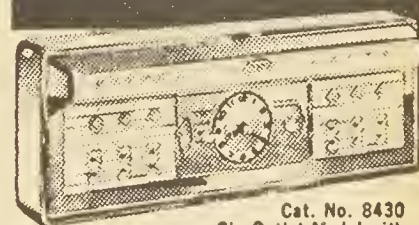
And this season, may we, like the shepherds of long ago, have our minds and hearts in condition to listen to the songs of the angels and know that it is *The Night*. And may we come as they did, with simple devotion bringing our hearts to the Christ Child, for though we be able to lay all the rich gifts of the world at his feet, we need most of all the wisdom to worship.

*For upon the sad, the lonely, the wretched and poor
The voice of the Christ Child shall fall
Offering hope to those who dared not dream before
There's mercy and love aplenty, for all.*

By LENNIS ISAACS

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● ANNUAL MEETINGS

PANTEGO. Woodstock Electric Membership Corporation, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m., Pantego High School Auditorium. FREE PRIZES.

MOREHEAD CITY. Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation, Dec. 5, Morehead City High School. \$700 in FREE PRIZES.

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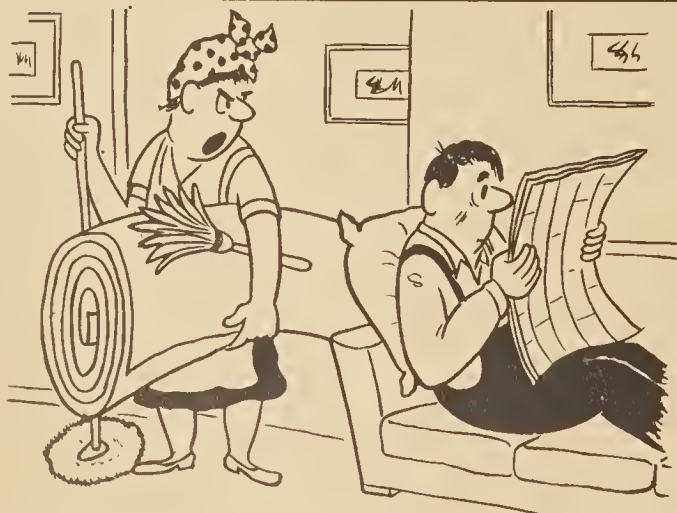
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"WELL, WHAT'S IT TODAY? ARTHRITIS, NEURITIS, BURSITIS
.....OR SOMETHING NEW?"

AROUND THE HOUSE



Electrical tips to help the
home handyman—
and woman, too

By C. L. Overman
Agricultural Engineer

Noisy Fans

The exhaust fan makes the homemaker's kitchen work more pleasant by removing cooking odors and eases her cleaning chores by carrying away airborne moisture, grease, and dust that would normally collect on her cabinets, walls and appliances.

In normal operation, enough grease and dust will eventually collect on the fan blades and motor, on the grill and inside the air duct to slow the fan, and it becomes noisy.

You should clean your kitchen exhaust fan at least once every two months with hot water, a detergent and a cloth.

Remove the grill and wash it as you would wash your dishes. Be sure you dry it well after washing it.

Remove the fan and motor. Most fans are held in the duct by two screws, and plugged into an outlet inside the duct. Wet your cloth and clean the fan and motor. Do not immerse the motor in water because water may damage the electric apparatus inside.

Use your wet cloth to clean out any grease and dust that has collected inside the air duct. These ducts are generally equipped with dampers or automatically closing outside covers which should be cleaned when you clean the duct.

Portable Appliance Centers

Portable appliances are beginning to take over many food preparation jobs in today's kitchen. To make the use of these appliances more convenient, manufacturers have developed appliance centers from which several portable appliances may be operated at one time.

These appliance centers have four to six outlets which may be used individually or all at one time. Some even have built-in cords on automatic rewinding spools which can be pulled out and used, thus saving the hunt for a cord when you want to iron or use an appliance.

All of these appliance centers are attractively designed to mount against the wall on top of a counter workspace and to be wired into your house wiring system.

Tricky

A tourist in Alabama saw a large sign on a gasoline station which said, "Mississippi State Line Two Miles Ahead—Last Chance for 28-Cent Gas." So he pulled in and had his tank filled.

"By the way," he asked as the attendant was handing him his change, "how much is gas in Mississippi?"

The Alabaman replied, "Twenty-four cents."

* * *

Try Again

A man went to see his psychiatrist and insisted that he had swallowed a horse. Try as he may, the psychiatrist was unable to persuade the patient to change his conviction, so in desperation he agreed to "operate." His idea was simply to put the patient asleep for a few minutes; then while he was still unconscious, the psychiatrist would have a horse brought into the operating room.

When the patient came to, the doctor pointed to the horse and said: "Well, that won't worry you any more."

The patient shook his head. "But, doctor, that's not the one I swallowed," he said. "That's a bay—my horse was white."

* * *

They'd Know

A housewife was complaining to her husband. "Just look at me! My clothes are so shabby that if anyone came to the door they'd think I was the cook."

"Not if they stayed for dinner," he retorted.



"Here's another pack of lies from my teacher!"

HALE!

Art

"Look, lady," said the sidewalk artist to a woman bystander, "would you like to buy this beautiful landscape painting?"

The woman glanced at the canvas and threw up her hands. "Why, I never saw such an awful looking painting," she exclaimed. "It's frightful."

"Lady," said the indignant artist, "I only paint what I see."

"Well, then," retorted the woman, "you shouldn't paint when you're in that condition."

The Real Thing?

One night last month a salesman's car broke down on a lonely dirt road in the mountains. After walking two or three miles, he finally found lodging for the night in a farmhouse.

The next morning his breakfast was served in a large bowl. All the time he was eating, a small pig kept crowding in and nuzzling him with much affection. Finally he said to his host:

"Your pig seems to have taken a shine to me. I never knew they were so full of affection."

"They ain't," said the owner. "It's just that you're using his bowl."

* * *

Pardon Me

A middle-aged man set off for a house where a children's party had been arranged. "Don't announce me," he said to the man who let him in.

Leaving his hat and coat in the hall, he opened the drawing-room door, through which he heard a buzz of conversation. Dropping on his hands and knees, he entered while making noises like a horse neighing.

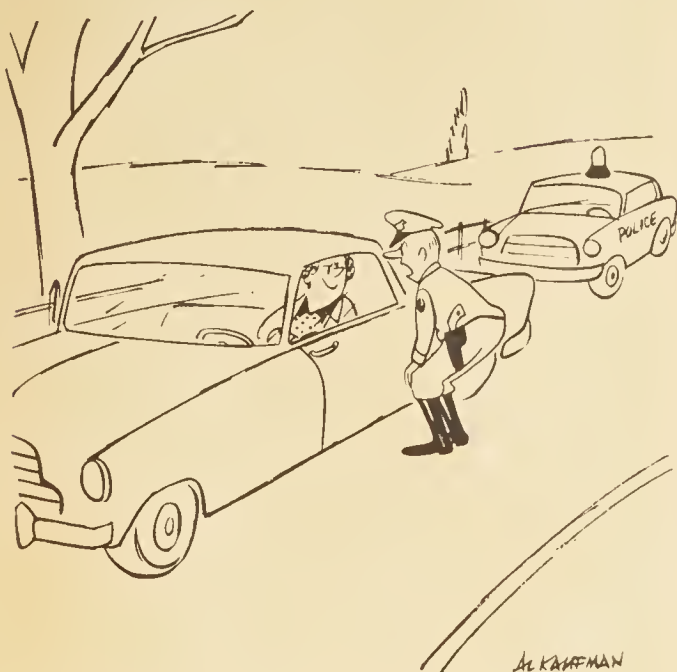
There was a dead silence. He looked up and found half a dozen people looking at him in alarm. He was in the wrong house.

* * *

Don't Worry

Patient: "I feel so bad that I often think of killing myself."

Doctor: "Now, now, you just leave that to us."



"Open up, in the name of the law!"



"Looks like you could have picked a better time to have the flu—such as between lunch and supper."

"Just What Did You Have In Mind?"



Not Now, Pollyanna

As much as we long for a decade of effortless relaxation, solved problems, safety of body, and salvation of soul, we must admit that the next 10 years again appear to be *The Most*—You can pick the rest of the superlative from out of our 1949 stock: *trying, challenging, frightening, and maybe even glorious or promising.*

The challenge of the next decade is eloquently put to us by a photograph which appears without caption on the opening page of a little booklet published by the Ford Foundation.

Two small children carrying roller skates stand before the barred gate of a city park, and on the gate is this sign:

No Roller Skating
No Bicycle Riding
No Dogs—No Peddling
THIS IS YOUR PLAYGROUND

The booklet is called, *Metropolis*, and it is concerned with blighted cities and areas which will be cities of the future. Because they will be cities, they will be susceptible to the blight of slums, crime, and the hideous idols of a wealthy community which leaves its cultural nourishment to chance.

One of our future cities is called, "the Piedmont Industrial Crescent," and it extends in a half moon across Raleigh, Greensboro, and Charlotte. Can it be saved from the blight of slums and crime? Can it be shaped to provide the opportunities one would expect to find in a

great city of intelligent beings, or will our lack of imagination bind us to a drive-in thoroughway culture?

Our past doesn't offer much reason for optimism. While we have been intelligent enough to acquire the wealth to build great cities, we've been careless enough to let them grow without regard for ourselves who must inhabit them.

The problem isn't exclusive with cities, and the challenge isn't as narrow as slum clearance and crime prevention. The next 10 years should test whether we have the intelligence to handle the complex social changes shaped by our own success. We have the material wealth to cope with these problems, but are woefully short of imagination when it comes to making prosperity our servant. From a standpoint of both personal comfort and national conscience, we are frequently victimized by it.

We grow a surplus of plenty, and can find no more use for it than to store it in bins. We increase our productivity and shorten our work week, but can think of nothing very rewarding to do with our leisure. We build cities, and allow ourselves to be driven from them. We build highways to get back to the cities, and spend the best part of our lives in traffic jams. We pollute our rivers, and foul our air with industrial progress. We build playgrounds we can't play in.

If there's a Moses among us, 1960 would be a good time for him to put in an appearance.



□ If John Jones builds a new home near the lines of your electric membership corporation, he will probably find that the EMC is a monopoly. That is, there probably isn't another utility system in the immediate area; therefore, Jones must take service from the EMC or not get it at all.

Every electric utility system is, to some extent, a monopoly. It has to be. The cost of building and operating lines is just too great to permit wide-open competition in every nook and cranny of the land.

Before the EMCs were organized, however, North Carolina was at the mercy of only the *power company-type* of electric monopoly. Moreover, since the several companies had "divided the state up"—each company being the *sole* supplier in a large block of counties—they did not compete with each other in any way.

This dominance of the state by only one type of electric monopoly was responsible for the fact that, up until 25 years ago, the great spaces separating our towns and cities were power vacuums.

Today, were one to superimpose upon a map of the state both the electric systems of the four power companies and the 32 EMCs, he would observe that a marvelous change has occurred. For there, winding in, around, and between the network of lines owned by the one power company in each county, are the lines that belong to one or more EMCs.

The power companies still do not compete with each other, but the competitive influence of the *cooperative-type* electric monopoly has unquestionably gotten rural North Carolina electrified. What is there about the EMC that makes its monopoly characteristic different?

Well, when John Smith is served by your EMC, he becomes an owner—a controller—as well as a ratepayer.

Moreover, the desire that motivates his EMC is not to make a profit for a small, non-customer, non-resident group of owners. It is to bring Jones the best electric services at the lowest price possible.

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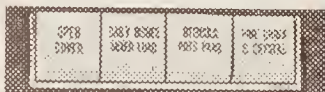


NEW!

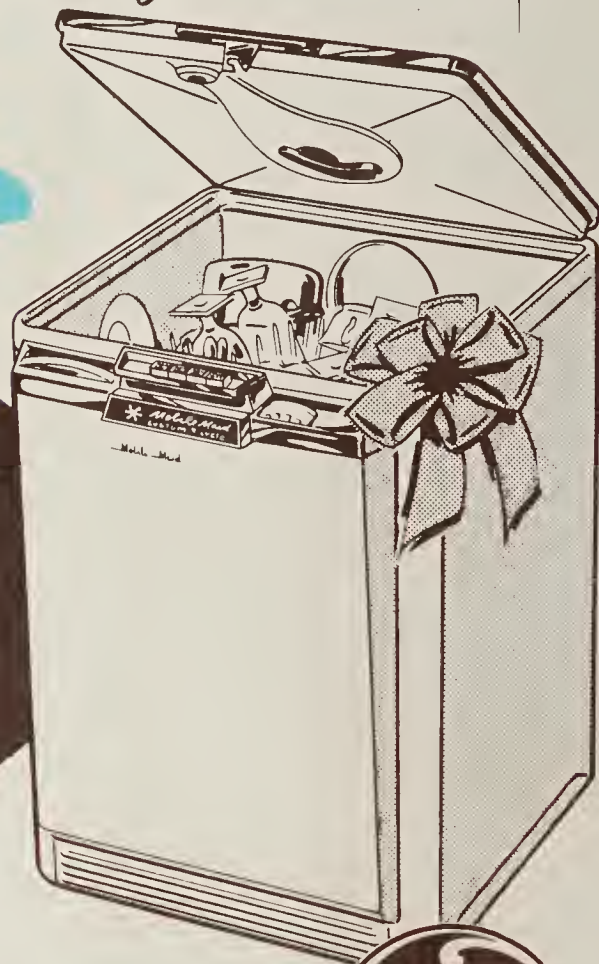
POWER SHOWER built into the lid forces water down—while power impeller below fire-hoses water upwards—giving you "CROSS-FIRE" washing action for sparkling clean dishes.

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